

THE
to-day Saints' Millennial Star.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.—Jesus Christ.

Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.—A Voice from Heaven.

No. 16, Vol. XVII.

Saturday, April 21, 1855.

Price One Penny.

The First Thing.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all other things shall be added unto you."—Jesus Christ.

If all those who are called by the name of Saint were to be individually asked whether it was the desire of their hearts to build up the kingdom of God and obtain salvation therein, we strongly suspect that every one would answer in the affirmative—yes, all would profess to have, for the primary object of their lives, the advancement of the purposes of Jehovah. But the way in which many attempt to advance those purposes appears to us rather peculiar, and certainly not the way we deem the best to bring about the result ostensibly aimed at. Many persons waste much time, labour, and money in the pursuit of objects that do not advance the kingdom of God one iota, but are rather a clog to it; yet all the while thinking, or professing to think, they are doing God the very best service. One will engage with heart and soul in politics, persuading himself that he will by and bye obtain an amount of influence thereby that will enable him to work wonders for the Kingdom. But, as time rolls on, the long-for golden chances come not, the work of God rapidly advances (most extraordinary thing) independently of the aid of the politician Saint; he finds himself rather losing ground with the work, while his affections for it do not, somehow or other, seem quite so warm towards it

as formerly, and he begins to suspect that something's wrong.

Another will be seized with a mania for great speculations in business, and all his time and means, and what of others he can obtain, will be invested in the concern, he also imagining that in the end some unheard-of benefit will accrue to himself, his friends, and the Church.

A third will invest his means, and persuade all others whom he can to join him, in some lumbering law-suit, that is to repay (some time after Doomsday?) ten or a hundred per cent for the money advanced. The gold must be paid down, and perhaps in a short time more added, and the whole affair entered into and carried on with true business promptitude and energy. No matter how the Church languishes for want of vital support, no matter how the Temple Offering and the Perpetual Emigrating Fund dwindle away—say nothing of them, yet a little while and the suit will be won, the hundred per cent obtained, and then won't the Church Funds rise, then won't something astonishingly splendid be done to roll on the wheels of Zion. Delusive anticipation! What is the result? Say the suit is won, and the proceeds are duly paid to the adventurers—how then? Does the desire to be liberal in aiding the Church,

exist as strongly as before the matter began? Or are those who have been so recently enriching the law at the expense of the Gospel now willing to reverse this order of things? Or, now the hundred per cent is in hand, does it not look some how after all as though it really would not go so far, and accomplish such diverse objects, as was originally expected? Or does the money slip through the fingers, in some mysterious way, as if the blessing of God was not on it? Say the suit is lost, or a settlement indefinitely postponed—then what disappointment, what recrimination among friends, what waste of time and means. Then, though all engaged may have been honest in the matter, how distrust supplants confidence, and then how do the spirit of manum, and his kindred imps, triumph over souls which once were subject to the small still whisperings of the Holy Spirit of God. Then how are names, once fair and high in the Church, and in honour among the Saints, sacrificed to folly. Then how are the eyes of the Saints open to the fact that “there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

We are not speaking of things altogether imaginative, things that have never occurred in the history of the Church. There have been Saints, Elders, and Presidents even—men who have faithfully ministered to the Saints and to the world, and previously done a great and good work, who have taken a course as unwise as described above, engaging, without the counsel of their superiors, in some wonderful undertaking *apparently a little aside* from their obvious duties, yet which, they fondly anticipated, would be productive of surprising advantage to the work of God. And with what results? The undertaking has cried out continually—“Give, give;” and means and time and strength have been drained from the Church, while the object sought has either vexatiously eluded pursuit, or, if obtained, disappointed grievously the expectations and defeated the intentions of the pursuers. We might appeal to Elders who have adopted such a course, whether they have not pursued a phantom, a mere will-o-the-whisp, or a supposed advantage which, when obtained, was fleeting as the twilight, and was in reality a disadvantage and a curse. We might appeal to such Elders, whether they have not felt the Spirit of the Lord leaving

them, whether they have not felt their strength gradually failing, while pursuing the object of their unadvised desires. Some have felt thus, whilst others have gloried in their natural wisdom and intellectual strength, until a knowledge of their real weakness has fallen upon them like a thunderclap, as Sampson discovered his when he arose from the lap of Delilah, “and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself.” Alas! “he wist not that the Lord was departed from him.”

What effect have these things on the Saints? A blighting, deathly influence, destroying confidence in one another, and sowing the seeds of suspicion, unbelief, and apostasy.

How long will it take Saints and Elders to learn that the only path to salvation is to adhere *strictly* to the counsel of those whom God has appointed to give counsel! The first thing to be sought is the kingdom of God, and the righteousness thereof, and this can only be done effectually by seeking the counsel of those whom He has set in the Church for helps and for governments, and by abiding in the spirit of that counsel. Many deceive themselves by imagining that they can do with impunity certain things which they have not been especially counselled to abstain from, and though in doing which they have not the full satisfaction of their own consciences. And some suppose they are doing nothing but what they may expect the blessing of the Lord upon, when they do not ask the counsel of their superiors upon the matter lest they should haply advise them not to engage in it. Such courses bring disappointment, vexation, and sorrow, and such self-sufficiency, if persisted in, will lead to a fatal step that will bring irretrievable ruin.

Now there is one principle that it would be well for the Saints ever to remember and act upon, and that is, to engage in no undertaking that they think would not be permitted and sanctioned by those who are appointed to direct them. Some counsel is permissive—that is, the Saints are told they *may* do so and so. This counsel is generally given because it is greatly desired by the receiver, not because it fully embodies the sentiments and desires of the giver. The perfect law of action, full of blessings, would be for one to say to his superior—“I wish to do not what you permit, but what you consider

best." Were such a course invariably adopted by Presidents, Elders, and Saints, the work of salvation would roll on with delightful harmony, power, and rapidity.

Finally we would say that enterprises which tend to draw the feelings, affections, desires, exertions, and means of the Saints from the great objects set before them by the authorities of the Church, should ever be strictly guarded against. Where the treasure is, there will the heart be. When people's hearts are unflinchingly set to build up the kingdom of God, their time, talent, property, money, and labour will be invested, as far as possible, in that kingdom, and not be thrown away upon

any private speculation, that has no direct bearing upon its advancement. It is lamentable to see the time, strength, means, and affections of the Saints drained and wasted away upon unworthy schemes, which promise great things by and bye in return, when there are actually existing, to accomplish the desired purpose, institutions dictated by the Holy Spirit, and organized and conducted by the highest authorities of the Church. To "seek first the kingdom of God," is to seek to sustain every interest and institution thereof the *first thing*, and in especial preference to every side or individual interest, institution, or speculation.

History of Joseph Smith.

(Continued from page 232.)

Monday, 27th. I was at home.

Commerce, Hancock County, Illinois,
27th May, 1839.

Father Bigler.

Dear Sir—We have thought well to write you by brother Markham on the subject of our purchase of lands here, in order to stir up your pure mind to a remembrance of the situation in which we have been placed by the Act of the Councils of the Church having appointed us a committee to transact business here for the Church. We have, as is known to the Church in general, made purchases and entered into contracts and promised payments of moneys, for all of which we now stand responsible.

Now as money seems to come in too slowly, in order that we may be able to meet our engagements, we have determined to call upon the liberality of Father Bigler, through the agency of brother Markham, and request that he will place in his hands for us, the sum of five or six hundred dollars, for which he shall have the security of said committee, also through the agency of brother Markham, and the thanks of the Church besides.

JOSEPH SMITH, junior,
V. KNIGHT.

To Mark Bigler, Quincy, Illinois.

Commerce, Illinois, 27th May, 1839.

Dear Sir—Having last week received a letter from brother R. B. Thompson, concerning your late writings in the Quincy Whig, and understanding thereby that the Church in general at Quincy were rather

uneasy concerning these matters, we have thought best to consider the matter of course, and accordingly being in Council on Saturday last, the subject was introduced, and discussed at some length, when an answer to brother Thompson's letter was agreed to and sanctioned by the Council, which answer I expect will be published, and of course you will have an opportunity to see it.

It will be seen by that letter, that we do not at all approve of the course which you have thought proper to take, in making the subject of our sufferings a political question. At the same time, you will perceive that we there express what we really feel: that is, a confidence in your good intentions in so doing. And (as I took occasion to state to the Council) knowing your integrity of principle, and steadfastness in the cause of Christ, I feel not to exercise even the privilege of counsel on the subject, save only to request that you will endeavour to bear in mind the importance of the subject, and how easy it might be to get into a misunderstanding with the brethren concerning it; and though last, not least, that whilst you continue to go upon your own credit, you will also steer clear of making the Church appear as either supporting or opposing you in your politics, lest such a course may have a tendency to bring about persecution on the Church, where a little wisdom and caution may avoid it.

I do not know that there is any occasion for my thus cautioning you in this thing, but having done so, I hope it will be well taken, and that all things shall eventually

be found to work together for the good of the Saints.

I should be happy to have you here to dwell amongst us, and am in hopes soon to have that pleasure. I was happy to receive your favour of the 20th instant, and to observe the contents; and beg to say in reply, that I shall attend to what you therein suggest, and shall feel pleasure at all times to answer any request of yours, and attend to them also in the best manner possible.

With every possible feeling of love and friendship for an old fellow-prisoner, and brother in the Lord, I remain, sir, your sincere friend.

JOSEPH SMITH, junior.

To Col. Lyman Wight, Quincy, Illinois.

Commerce, Hancock County, Illinois,
27th May, 1839.

To the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Greeting—

From our knowledge of the good sacrifices made by the bearer, brother Stephen Markham, in behalf of the welfare of us, and the Church generally, and from the great trust which we have oftentimes reposed in him, and as often found him trustworthy, not seeking his own aggrandizement, but rather that of the community, we feel warranted in commissioning him to go forth among the faithful, as our agent, to gather up and receive such moneys, in money or otherwise, as shall enable us to meet our engagements which are now about to devolve upon us, in consequence of our purchases here for the Church; and we humbly trust that our brethren generally will enable him to come to our assistance before our credit shall suffer on this account.

JOSEPH SMITH, junior, P. E.

Thursday, 28th. I was at home. When the prisoners arrived at Columbia, they applied to Judge Reynolds for a special term of court to be holden for their trials. The petition was granted, and July first was appointed for the sitting of the court.

Monday, 29th. I was about home until the latter part of the week, when I went to Quincy in company with my Council. I continued to assist in making preparations to lay our grievances before the General Government, and many of the brethren were making their reports of damages sustained in Missouri. I wrote as follows—

Quincy, June 4th, 1839. Bill of damages against the State of Missouri, on account of the sufferings and losses sustained therein.

March 12th, 1838. I with my family arrived in Far West, Caldwell County, after a journey of one thousand miles, being eight weeks on my journey, enduring great affliction in consequence of prosecution, &c., and expending two or three hundred dollars.

Soon after my arrival at that place, I was informed that a number of men living in Davies County (on the Grimstone Forks) had offered the sum of one thousand dollars for my scalp: persons to whom I was an entire stranger, and of whom I had no knowledge. In order to attain their end, the roads were frequently waylaid for me, &c. At one time in particular, when watering my horse on Shoal Creek, I distinctly heard three or four guns snapped at me. I was credibly informed also, that Judge King, of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, gave encouragement to individuals to carry into effect their diabolical designs, and has frequently stated that I ought to be beheaded on account of my religion.

In consequence of such expressions from Judge King and others in authority, my enemies endeavoured to take every advantage of me, and heaping abuse, getting up vexatious lawsuits, and stirring up the minds of the people against me and the people with whom I was connected, although we had done nothing to deserve such treatment, but were busily engaged in our several avocations, and desirous to live on peaceable and friendly terms with all men. In consequence of such threats and abuse which I was continually subject to, my family were kept in continual state of alarm, not knowing any morning what would befall me from day to day, particularly when I went from home.

On the latter part of September, 1838, I went to the lower part of the county of Caldwell for the purpose of selecting a location for a town. When on my journey, I was met by one of our friends with a message from De Witt, in Carrol County, stating that our brethren who had settled in that place, were, and had for some time been, surrounded by a mob, who had threatened their lives, and had shot several times at them. Immediately on hearing this strange intelligence, I made preparations to start, in order if possible to allay the feeling of opposition, if not to make arrangements with those individuals of whom we had made purchases, and to whom I was responsible and holden for part of the purchase money.

I arrived there on the — day of September, and found the account which I heard was correct. Our people were surrounded by a mob, their provisions nearly exhausted. Messengers were immediately sent to the Governor, requesting protection; but instead of lending any assistance to the oppressed, he stated that the quarrel was

between the "Mormons" and the mob, and they must fight it out.

Being now almost destitute of provisions, and having suffered great distress, and some of the brethren having died in consequence of their privations and sufferings, and I had then the pain of beholding some of my fellow-creatures perish in a strange land, from the cruelty of a mob. Seeing no prospect of relief, the brethren agreed to leave that place and seek a shelter elsewhere, after having their houses burnt down, their cattle driven away, and much of their property destroyed.

Judge King was also petitioned to afford us some assistance. He sent a company of about one hundred men; but instead of affording us any relief, we were told by General Parks that he could afford none, in consequence of the greater part of his company, under their officer, Captain Samuel Bogart, having mutinied. About seventy wagons left De Witt for Caldwell, and during their journey were continually insulted by the mob, who threatened to destroy us, and shot at us. In our journey several of our friends died and had to be interred without a coffin, and under such circumstances, was extremely distressing. Immediately on my arrival at Caldwell, I was informed by General Doniphan, from Clay County, that a company of about eight hundred were marching towards a settlement of our brethren in Daviess County, and he advised one of the officers that we should immediately go to protect our brethren in Daviess County, (in what he called White's Town,) until he should get the militia to put them down. A company of militia, to the number of sixty, who were on their route to that place, he ordered back, believing, as he said, that they were not to be depended upon; and to use his own language, were "damned rotten hearted."

Lieut.-Colonel Hinkle, agreeable to the advice of General Doniphan and a number of our brethren, volunteered to go to Daviess to render what assistance they could. My labours having been principally expended in Daviess County, where I intended to take up my residence; and having a house in building, and having other property there, I hastened up to that place; and while I was there, a number of the brethren's houses were burnt, and depredations were continually committed, such as driving off horses, cattle, sheep, &c., &c.

Being deprived of shelter, and others having no safety in their houses, which were scattered; and being alarmed at the approach of the mob, they had to flock together; their sufferings were very great in consequence of their defenceless situation—being exposed to the weather, which was

extremely cold, a large snow storm having just fallen.

In this state of affairs, General Parks arrived at Daviess, and was at the house of Colonel Wight when the intelligence was brought that the mob were burning houses, &c.; and also men, women, and children were flocking into the village for safety. Colonel Wight, who held the commission in the fifty-ninth regiment under his command, asked him what steps should be taken. He told them that he must immediately call out his men, and go and put them down.

Immediately preparations were made to raise a force to quell the mob, who, on ascertaining that we were determined to bear such treatment no longer, but to make a vigorous effort to subdue them, and likewise being informed of the orders of General Parks, broke up their encampment and fled.

Some of the inhabitants in the immediate neighbourhood, who seeing no prospects of driving us by force, resorted to stratagem, and actually set fire to their own houses (miserable log houses, after having removed their property and effects) and then sent information to the Governor, stating that our brethren were committing depredations and destroying their property, burning houses, &c.

On the retreat of the mob from Daviess County, I returned home to Caldwell. On my arrival there, I understood that a mob had commenced hostilities in the borders of Caldwell; had taken some of our people prisoners; burnt some houses, and had done considerable damage. Immediately Captain Patten was ordered out by Lieut.-Col. Hinkle to go against them, and about daylight next morning came up with them. Upon the approach of our people they fired upon them; and after discharging their pieces, fled with great precipitation.

In this affray, Captain Patten fell a victim to that spirit of mobocracy which has prevailed to such an extent; along with two others; others were severely wounded. On the day after this affray, Captain Patten sent for me to pray for him, which request I complied with, and then returned to my home.

There continued to be great commotion in the county, caused by the conduct of the mob, who were continually burning houses, driving off horses, cattle, &c., and taking prisoners, and threatening death to all the "Mormons." Amongst the cattle driven off, were two cows of mine.

On the 28th of October, a large company of armed soldiers were seen approaching Far West, and encamped about one mile from the town. The next day I was waited upon by Lieut.-Colonel Hinkle, who stated

that the officers of the militia requested an interview with us in order to come to some amicable settlement of the difficulties which then existed; they, the officers, not wishing, under the present circumstances, to carry into effect the exterminating orders they had received. I immediately complied with the request, and in company with Messieurs Rigdon, Robinson, Wight, and Pratt, proceeded to meet the officers of the militia, but instead of treating us with respect, and as persons desirous to accommodate matters, to our astonishment we were delivered up as prisoners of war, and taken into their camp as such. It would be in vain for me to give any idea of the scene which now presented itself in the camp. The hideous yells of more than a thousand infuriated beings, whose desire was to wreak their vengeance upon me and the rest of my friends, was truly awful, and enough to appall the stoutest heart.

In the evening we had to lie down on the cold ground, surrounded by a strong guard. We petitioned the officers to know why we were thus treated; but they utterly refused to hold any conversation with us. The next day they held a court martial upon us and sentenced me, with the rest of the prisoners, to be shot; which sentence was to be carried into effect on Friday morning in the public square, as they say, an ensample to the rest of the members; but through the kind providence of God, their murderous sentence was not carried into execution. The militia then went to my house and drove my family out of doors under sanction of General Lucas, and carried away all my property.

Having an opportunity of speaking to General Wilson, and on asking him the cause of such strange proceedings, I told him that I was a democrat, and had always been a supporter of the Constitution. He answered, "I know that, and that is the reason why I want to kill you, or have you killed."

We were led into the public square, and after considerable entreaty, we were permitted to see our families, being attended with a strong guard. I found my family in tears, expecting that they had carried into effect their sentence; they clung to my garments with weeping. I requested to have a private interview with my wife in an adjoining room, but was refused; when taking my departure from my family, it was almost too painful for me. My children clung to me, and were thrust away at the point of the swords of the soldiery. We were then removed to Jackson County, under the care of General Wilson; and during our stay there, we had to sleep on the floor, with nothing but a mantle for our covering, and a

stick of wood for our pillow, and had to pay for our own board.

While we were in Jackson, General Clark with his troops arrived in Caldwell, and sent an order for our return, holding out the inducement that we were to be reinstated to our former privileges; but instead of being taken to Caldwell, we were taken to Richmond, where we were immured in prison and bound in chains. After we were thus situated, we were under the charge of Colonel Price, of Chariton County, who suffered us to be abused in every manner which the people thought proper.

Our situation at this time was truly painful. We were taken before the court of inquiry; but in consequence of the proceedings of the mob, and their threats, we were not able to get such witnesses as would have been serviceable; even those we had were abused by the States Attorney, and the court, and were not permitted to be examined by the court as the law directs. We were committed to Liberty jail, and petitioned Judge Turnham for a writ of habeas corpus; but owing to the prejudice of the jailer, all communication was entirely cut off. However, at length we succeeded in getting a petition conveyed to the judge, but he neglected to pay any attention to it for fourteen days, and kept us in suspense. He then ordered us to appear before him; but he utterly refused to hear any of our witnesses, which we had been at a great trouble in providing. Our lawyer also refused to act, being afraid of the people.

We likewise petitioned to Judge King and the judges of the Supreme Court, but they utterly refused. Our victuals were of the coarsest kind, and served up in a manner which was disgusting. After bearing up under repeated injuries, we were moved to Daviess County under a strong guard. We were then arraigned before the Grand Jury, who were mostly intoxicated, who indicted me and the rest of my companions for treason. We then got a change of venue to Boone County, and were on our way to that place. On the second evening after our departure, our guards getting intoxicated, I thought it a favourable time to effect our escape from such men, whose aim was only to destroy our life and to abuse us in every manner that wicked men could invent. Accordingly we took advantage of their situation, and made our escape; and after enduring considerable fatigue, and suffering hunger and weariness, expecting that our enemies would be in pursuit, we arrived in the town of Quincy, Illinois, amidst the congratulations of our friends, and the joy of our families. I have been here for several weeks, as it is known to the people of the State of Missouri; but they, knowing they

Had no justice in their crusade against me, have not to my knowledge taken the first step to have me arrested.

The loss of property which I have sustained is as follows: Losses sustained in Jackson County, Daviess County, Caldwell County, including lands, houses, harness, hogs, cattle, &c.; books and store goods, expenses while in bonds, of moneys paid out, expenses of moving out of the State, and damages sustained by false imprisonments, threatenings, intimidations, exposure, &c., &c., one hundred thousand dollars.

My brother Hyrum Smith wrote the following—

Sufferings and damages sustained in Missouri, and being driven therefrom.

I left Kirtland, Ohio, in the spring of 1838, having the charge of a family of ten individuals; the weather being very unfavourable, and the roads worse than I had ever seen, which materially increased my expenses, on account of such long delays upon the road. However, after suffering many privations, I reached my destination in safety, and intended to make my permanent residence in the State of Missouri. I sent on by water all my household furniture and a number of farming instruments, amounting to several hundred dollars, having made purchases of lands of several hundreds of acres, upon which I intended to settle.

In the meantime, I took a house in Far West, until I could make further arrangements. I had not been there but a few weeks, before the report of mobs, whose intention was to drive us from our homes, was heard from every quarter. I thought that the reports were false, inasmuch as I know that we as a people had done nothing to merit any such treatment as was threatened. However, at length, from false and wicked reports, circulated for the worst of purposes, the inhabitants of the upper counties of Missouri commenced hostilities, threatened to burn our dwellings, and even the lives of our people, if we did not move away; and afterwards, horrid to relate, they put their threats into execution.

Our people endeavoured to calm the fury of our enemies, but in vain; for they carried on their depredations to a greater extent than ever, until most of our people who lived in places at a distance from the towns had collected together, so that they might be the better able to escape from the fury of our enemies, and be in better condition to defend their lives and the little property they had been able to save. It is probable that our persecutors might have been deterred from their purposes, had not wicked

and shameful reports been sent to the Governor of the State, who ordered out a very large force to exterminate us. When they arrived at Far West, we were told what were their orders. However, they did not fall upon us, but took several of my friends and made them prisoners; and the day after, a company of the militia came to my house and ordered me to go with them into the camp. My family at that time particularly needed my assistance, being much afflicted. I told them my situation, but remonstrance was in vain, and I was hurried into the camp, and was subject to the most cruel treatment.

I, along with the rest of the prisoners, was ordered to be shot; but it was providentially overruled. We were then ordered to Jackson County, where our bitterest persecutors resided. Before we started, after much entreaty, I was privileged to visit my family, accompanied with a strong guard. I had only time to get a change of linen, &c., and was hurried to where the teams were waiting to convey us to the city of Independence, in Jackson County. While there I was subjected to continued insult from the people who visited us. I had likewise to lie on the floor, and had to cover myself with my mantle; after remaining there for some time we were ordered to Richmond, in Ray County, where our enemies expected to shoot us; but finding no law to support them in carrying into effect so strange an act, we were delivered up to the civil law. As soon as we were so, we were thrust into a dungeon, and our legs were chained together. In this situation we remained until called before the court, who ordered us to be sent to Liberty in Clay County, where I was confined for more than four months, and endured almost everything but death, from the nauseous cell, and the wretched food we were obliged to eat.

In the meantime, my family were suffering every privation. Our enemies carried off nearly everything of value, until my family were left almost destitute. My wife had been but recently confined and had to suffer more than tongue can describe; and then in common with the rest of the people, had to move in, the month of February, a distance of two hundred miles, in order to escape further persecutions and injury.

Since I have obtained my liberty, I feel my body broke down and my health very much impaired, from the fatigue and afflictions which I have undergone, so that I have not been able to perform any labour since I have escaped from my oppressors. The loss of property which I sustained in the State of Missouri would amount to several thousand dollars; and one hundred thousand

dollars would be no consideration for what I have suffered from privations!—from my life being continually sought!!—and all the accumulated sufferings I have been subject to.

HYRUM SMITH.

(To be continued.)

The Latter-day Saints' Millennial Star.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL, EMIGRATION, &c.—The spring is again opening with its mild air and pleasant days, bringing renewed life to all nature and general activity to most business affairs of the world. This should remind the Saints that it also offers increased facilities for the spread of the Gospel. While the husbandman is putting seed into the earth preparatory to another harvest, the Elders of Israel should renew their labours with increased energy, as the season and other circumstances may offer opportunities for sowing the seeds of salvation among the people.

Much has transpired during the past few months which is calculated to prepare the minds of men for the reception of the truth. The clouds of war have continued to gather thicker and darker over the horizon of the nations. An army has melted away under the walls of a beleaguered fortress, and has suffered death in every imaginable form from causes which have confounded the wisdom of the wise. These events have sent sorrow and mourning to thousands of firesides. Famine has stared multitudes in the face during the past winter, and many have sunk into the grave under its withering influence. War, financial embarrassment, and disaster, have paralyzed the commercial affairs of the nation; and thereby made more manifest the instability of human affairs. The present is full of calamity and evil, and dark forebodings for the future weigh upon the minds of men. These things are bringing many to reflect deeply on their own deplorable condition, and that of their fellow-men around them. At this moment thousands are anxiously inquiring in their hearts, "Is there no way of escape from these evils? Is there no salvation from the gathering storm which threatens with dissolution the present organizations of men?" And they are waiting, anxiously waiting, for the words of eternal life which will give peace and joy to their troubled spirits; and they would rejoice to gather out from the turmoil and wickedness which surround them, to the places of refuge which the Lord has prepared for His people.

The harvest truly is great and ready for the reapers, but, as usual in this kingdom, the labourers appear few for the work which lies before them. Let the Saints, one and all, diligently seek unto the Lord with much faith and prayer, and second the efforts of those who are called to devote their time to the ministry, and the Lord will give power and efficiency to their feeble efforts by the rich outpourings of His Spirit, and all will yet rejoice in an abundant harvest of souls the coming year. Let the presiding Elders seek earnestly the dictates of the Spirit, as to when and where to bestow their labours, and the best means to be employed to spread the work in particular localities.

Wherever circumstances seem to warrant it, let the Pastors and Presidents of Conferences set apart faithful Elders to preach and distribute the Word in new places, that no opportunities may pass for doing good. In selecting Elders for this

purpose, much discretion should be used, and the manifestations of the Holy Spirit obtained. Although the Gospel has been extensively preached in Britain, and many thousands have embraced the truth, there are still millions who have not even heard that the Priesthood has been again restored to the earth, and the great work of the last days commenced.

The gathering is also a weighty testimony when taken in connexion with other events which are continually transpiring, and the Spirit will urge it home upon the hearts of thousands of the friends and acquaintances of the emigrating Saints, and whisper to them that there is beyond the sea a haven of peace, and a refuge from the impending storms.

During the past few months, much has transpired to attract the attention of the world to the movements of the Saints. In this the enemies of the truth have assisted not a little, through their vile abuse and exciting slanders. The important position we are fast assuming, as a people, politically as well as religiously, has attracted the notice of many in high places, and they are beginning to inquire what these strange things mean, and to examine the principles which actuate the Saints in the great movement of gathering, and which develop a concentration of strength and a union of action that astonish the world in this age of moral and religious, civil and domestic misrule and disorganization.

The rapid spreading out and astonishing growth of the Latter-day Saints, not only in Utah, but throughout the United States, are a great source of joy and rejoicing to every true-hearted Saint, and also a weighty testimony to the world that the Lord works for His people. One year ago there was no considerable organization of the Saints on the Atlantic side of the Rocky Mountains. Now thoroughly organized Stakes and Branches are being established in many of the principal cities and towns of the United States. A better route is opened for the emigration of the Saints, and the press has again been put into operation to defend the truth, remove prejudice, correct error, and spread abroad the principles of truth and righteousness.

The Lord has not thus given His people power to spread out and organize in such strength, without some great objects to be accomplished by it, and He has declared one of them to be the establishment of temporary gathering places for the Saints from this country. Those who can accomplish their emigration to the States will there find greater facilities open before them for the completion of their journey to the Mountains. A very important consideration in the matter is, that the P. E. Fund can emigrate two persons from the Missouri River to Utah, for about the same amount that it can one from this country. It may be reasonably expected that while the Company will not neglect the poor in Europe, its operations will be rapidly extended in the United States.

As the season for the emigration to Utah is now closing, the Saints in Europe, one and all, should be thoroughly alive to the subject of emigrating to the United States. Everything conspires to urge the importance of it upon their minds, and to those who live in the light of the Holy Spirit the reasons are evident and abundant, but the most prominent one is that the Lord has commanded it, and that command is binding on all so far as they can possibly obey it. Therefore we say to all who have the means to get to the States, except those specially counselled to remain by those who are over them in the Lord, let nothing deter them, and let those who have not the funds seek diligently to obtain them by every honourable method. Let no effort, no exertion be wanting, let no consideration but necessity detain them. The Spirit whispers, "Get ye up out of these lands, for the judgments of the Almighty are being poured out upon the nations, for they are ripening in transgression, and the cup of their iniquity is being filled to overflowing." Those who slumber in careless security will yet find that the kingdom of God has rolled on and left them behind, and those who cry, "Peace! peace!" will be overtaken in sudden calamity amid the war of opposing

elements which is spreading over the earth, and they will find that they have let the favourable moments pass by, and will look in vain for a more convenient season.

PRESIDENT H. C. KIMBALL'S LETTER.—We have lately received an unusual number of communications from the Valley and other parts of the world, which are of rather more than usual interest, not only for the news they contain, but for their beautiful delineations of the principles of truth. No person with the spirit of the Gospel in his heart, can read the letter of President Kimball to his son, without admiring its charming simplicity, and feeling edified and refreshed by the meek and quiet spirit of fatherly kindness in which it is written. We recommend all who read to cultivate that same spirit of love and affection, and let it rule in their own households. This was the spirit of the Patriarchs, and it will characterize all who raise up a righteous posterity on the earth, and become Kings and Priests forever after the order of Melchisedek.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE—The Sandwich Islands—Place of Gathering.—It is with much satisfaction that we received the information from the letter of Elder H. P. Richards, published in the last Number of the *Star*, that a place of gathering had been selected for the Saints of the Sandwich Islands on one of their native isles, as they are generally poor and destitute of the means of travelling any considerable distance. They are a kind and simple people, but, like many other barbarous nations, they have become still more degenerated through the licentious vices of a corrupt Christian civilization. The great object of gathering these Saints out by themselves is to separate them as much as possible from these evil influences, and to place them where they can be taught the useful arts of life, and more fully instructed in the practice of the principles of righteousness.

The following is from the *Deseret News* of Dec. 7—"Brother Philip B. Lewis writes to brother John L. Smith from Oahu, August 19, that the Conference on the islands which closed July 28, was the best he had attended. 'A spirit of oneness pervaded every breast, and the Spirit of the Lord was poured out upon us mightily in prophecy, and revelation through the gift of tongues, which made us forget for a time all our trials and sacrifices, and that the ocean rolled between us and our loved Deseret.' Elder Lewis' health was good, but that of his wife was feeble.

"Brother Reddin A. Allred writes from Maui, July 13, to brother James McKnight, that his health was good, and the Church increasing in numbers on that and every other island in the group, and of course opposition also on the increase."

Foreign Correspondence.

DESERET.

Extracts of a Letter from President H. C. Kimball to his Son William—Price of Provisions—U. S. Soldiers—Suppression of Grog-shops—Arrival of Elder C. C. Rich—Sugar Works—Pottery—Weaving—General Intelligence, &c.

G. S. L. City, Dec. 21st, 1854.

My Dear Son William—Without any preliminaries, my family are all enjoying a goodly degree of health, with the exception of Sarah P., and David and Heber, who are considerably afflicted with colds, which are quite prevalent in the Valley. Your mother's health is very good, but at

times she overworks herself. Priscinda has met with a misfortune by breaking the big bone in her left arm, about an inch and a half above the wrist, which is now doing pretty well. As far as Sarah P. is concerned, she is quite low, and her case doubtful, having taken a violent cold, and we rather think she has the quick consumption, and at times is rather flighty in her mind; still she thinks she shall recover. Mary is well, as also all her children. She is in good spirits. She was here this morning, and also Ellen Vilate. About 15 or 20 minutes ago I was in at Melissa's; she is well, also the doctor, with the rest of the boys. I can say, as

far as my family are concerned, with yours, which is a portion of them, they have plenty to eat—good flour, good new corn meal, some beautiful pork that I fattened at my mill, eight beautiful hogs that will average over 200 pounds, fine beef, potatoes, squashes, pumpkins, carrots, beets, parsnips, onions, and some chickens, so you may judge whether we can starve to death in this lovely valley. As to my mill, we have done very well, considering the water that we have had, which has been but a small allowance for so large a run of stone as we have in; but still, when we have run the mill, we have ground on an average about 60 bushels a day. The corn did not fill out full, as it was considerably damaged by grasshoppers. The toll of the mill will just about bread us, and pay the expenses, and you may be assured it is highly appreciated by your father, as you know well I have not had much income previous, and I feel most cordially to give thanks to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, that He gave me strength and ability to organize it and put it in operation. Daniel Davis and Elisha H. Davis are the millers.

About five weeks ago, brother Brigham, myself, and others went to the island in the ferry boat, and took off over five hundred head of cattle—some of his, some of mine, and some others (Church cattle principally), as the feed is very short on the island on account of grasshoppers. Miles Weaver has taken our cattle, and the Church cattle, about 2000 head, down into Utah Valley, where Philander Bell kept his herd. When Miles was cutting wood on the island, a silver flew off, and struck him in the left eye, which he has since lost the sight of. All the cattle were ferried over, as the water remains swimming deep. When you left you had two young French ponies, but now you have three.

Wheat is selling as low as \$1 25 to \$2 00. Oats from \$1 25 to \$2 00 a bushel. Corn \$1 50. Potatoes 75c. a bushel, and have been cash at these prices, as Colonel Steptoe, with his U. S. troops, has kept produce pretty high generally. I suppose he will lay out in this city and territory, during his stay here, probably over \$400,000. He is quite a gentleman and a friend, as also are some of his subordinates. There are about 150 soldiers, mostly quartered in the city, viz., at bro-

ther Woodruff's house, Enoch Reese's stores, Townsend's new public-house, Ardet Hale's house. Wilkie's establishment is occupied by Judge Kinney and part of the troops, and also a new building put up between the Council House and Livingston's store, which is kept as the Commissary's office, with several other private buildings. There was considerable looseness with the soldiers and some that profess to be "Mormons," but we have taken a decided stand against beer-houses, grog-shops, &c., and have caused every member of the Church of Jesus Christ who had licenses to sell, to render up their licenses, which they have done, and those of the world were vetoed by the City Council. It was getting to be a little hellish, but it is getting to be more heavenly now. The decision was by the Church that every man who would not refrain from selling, should be severed from the Church, and that without any equivocation or mental reservation. Colonel Steptoe, Judge Kinney, and all good citizens were one with us in putting down this iniquity.

C. C. Rich has arrived; he met about 60 wagons on the Muddy, going to California. Our country has received a lobelia, and we gave an injection, so that the stomach and bowels of Utah are getting a little cleansed. I think, with good nurses we shall be able to destroy the fever and canker, and save the patient. These are things that you feel interested in, no doubt. There is a great reformation in our city—two, three, and four meetings in every ward, for both old and young. Male and female schools are creating, education is increasing—"Educate, EDUCATE, EDUCATE," is the speech. "Will you hear one now?"

The Legislature has been in session two weeks, and are now getting their hands full of business, investigating the situation of the Militia, Military Schools, and making inquiries about the Arsenal and other warlike things. Brother J. M. Grant is the Speaker in the House, and I am the President in the Council. We have this day adjourned, to meet the day after Christmas in joint session, to take up a Bill regulating Forts and Fortifications in the Territory, and to raise a tax and compel the people to fortify.

The best of feelings are existing. The Governor is enjoying good health, living in his new house. We have got the

Church Office done, adjoining the Governor's Office; the clerks are in it doing business, and our prayer circle meets in the room over the same. The President has another house commenced—40 by 116—adjoining his other, on the west. The basement is now nearly up. The Theatre is in operation. The spirit of dancing is hardly got into yet, but some signs of it. The minds of the people seem more inclined to know their duties, and "Yankee doodle do it."

Jordan Bridge is done and passable, and the Legislature are now thinking of making a toll-bridge of it, and also making a new road through Parley's Park to the Weber, and putting a toll-gate on that and the old road. \$25,000 have been appropriated to make a military road from here to San Bernardino. Colonel Steptoe is about letting out the job. There has been a new route picked out between here and Carson Valley, through Tooele Valley, shortening the distance near 200 miles, and not any place over 30 miles without good water and grass, escaping all the deserts and saleratus.

We have received news from brother Parley on the coast. He says there are objections to his establishing a stake of Zion in the San José. The first is, there is no land; second, no people to make a city. His course is directed to Carson Valley; that no doubt will be organized into a county, and a city established there, which is now in embryo.

The mason work is going on, laying the foundation of the Temple. All the public masons are at work to a very good advantage. We expect to bring the granite stone for the basement of the Temple from Big Cottonwood Canyon. The Sugar Works will be in operation before you receive this, at the contemplated place on Canyon Creek, south-east corner of the five acre lots; part of it is a two story house, and part three story, large and extensive. There are a great many beets to be worked up; between 50 and 60 acres of beets were raised on the Church Farm. Stock is quite low, both here and in California. Very dull times at San Bernardino. Wheat is not worth over one dollar a bushel, and no sale at that, and stock in proportion. A great many of the people are home-sick, and want to return, and will in the spring. They went to get fruit, and when they

arrived there was not any without going 110 miles further, and then they had to pay for it. This makes them sick and puny.

The orders that were given to the people to fort and fortify themselves in some places are partially done—some one-third, some one-fourth, and some have not done anything. In consequence of this there will be a law touching this case, to force the people to pay a tax to carry out the designs intended.

It is peace now with us. There is no knowing the calamities that may overtake us, in consequence of the slackness of the people.

There is a Dane who has established a pottery in the south part of the city, and is making as beautiful brown ware as I used to make in Monroe County in New York. He has made four large tankards of earthen, that we set upon the tables in the Tabernacle, two on each side of the stand, that will hold from six to eight gallons each. They have brass cocks to draw out the water for sacrament. They are glazed on the inside, and painted on the outside very beautiful.

The different wards are now engaged in making carpeting to carpet the whole of the Tabernacle, which will be completed next week.

The new Council Hall, built by the Presidents of the Seventies, is now completed, and will be dedicated on Christmas Day. It is a very neat little chapel, and will prove extremely useful and beneficial to the Presidents to meet in to transact their Quorum business. I have received an invitation, with brothers Brigham and Grant, to meet with them, and participate in the ceremonies.

Your mother has done, and caused to be done, within a year, rising over 700 yards of cloth and carpeting, in the house. Mary has participated in it, and spun between 70 and 80 run, and clothed up her children in home-spun.

As to my own financial affairs, I am as near and the nearest out of debt that I have ever been since I came in the territory. I furnish the wood and fuel, bread, beef, and vegetables, for twelve families, and the most of them their clothing, and I can truly say we are all a great deal more comfortable for the supplies of life than we have been before at any time of my life, and I feel thankful and grateful to my Father who dwells in

the heavens for His kindness to me and my family, and the Saints in general.

Our winter is extremely mild and pleasant. We have not had over four inches of snow. Buildings are going up lively, as if it was in the midst of summer. As for the tithing, our granaries are nearly full. They are bringing in their tithing grain from San Pete in the south, to the Box Elder north. Every man seems to be diligent in forwarding his tithing. I suppose there are from 12,000 to 15,000 bushels of potatoes on hand, and also other vegetables in proportion. We have no poor here, no beggars at the corners of the streets, and every one seems to have plenty of employment.

I have not done anything yet towards my saw-mill, as I have had all I could attend to.

On Christmas day George Chase and Emily Hyde will be married. Tell William Woodward I want him to participate in this letter, as I have given a general history of matters. He has my kind wishes and blessings, and I feel thankful he is in that country labouring with you. Remember me kindly to brother Griffiths at Woolwich, and tell him I have used my influence to have him come to the Valley next season. And I want you to remember me to brother Albion. Tell him to be faithful, as I want him to fulfil the prediction that I placed on his head, and that was, that he should be an instrument in the hands of God in bringing hundreds and thousands into the work.

Brother Brigham, myself, brothers Grant, O. Hyde, George A. Smith, accompanied by several others, took a mission after the October Conference to San Pete. We averaged over 40 miles a day, and held meetings at San Pete, Allred's Settlement, two meetings at Nephi, one at Spanish Fork, Provo, &c., &c. When we started my health was very poor. I was very sick, unable to sit up until my return; and after our return, brother Brigham, Grant, myself, Ira Eldridge, the Territorial Commissioner, and Jesse Fox went up the west side of the Jordan to dig the first commencement for the canal from the Utah Lake to the Black Rock. It is surveyed for about 20 miles, and the sales of land on each side will commence next spring, to pay for the work.

HEBER C. KIMBALL.

Extracts of a Letter from Elder George A. Smith—The Legislature—City Disturbance—General Intelligence.

Council Chamber, G. S. L. City,
Dec. 28th, 1854.

Brother Franklin D. Richards—As Brother Kimball has already written a letter to William, embracing all the news in general, and everything else in particular, I sit down simply to continue our correspondence.

The weather has been the finest imaginable for our mountain position. The California Mail arrived here yesterday. The news from the south is of a pacific character, Indians quiet, weather fine, settlements prospering, health universal. Brother William Huntingdon has returned from his trip of discovery among the Navijoes. He found the ruins of an ancient city, some of the buildings in a good state of preservation, four stories high, the walls laid in cement as hard as the rock. The Legislature is in session, but business is dull during the holidays. Last Tuesday Chief Justice Kinney made an extensive party at the Union Hall, and invited the Presidency, the Twelve, and many of the principal citizens to participate. Colonel Steptoe and his officers were present. The Hall was crowded, but Judge Kinney, who by the way is said to be a rigid Presbyterian, danced for the first time in his life, and really got the spirit of it, at any rate made a first-rate commencement. He furnished the whole party with a splendid supper, and a good feeling seemed to pervade the entire company, composed as it was of Ecclesiastical, Civil, Judicial, and Military authorities. The great word "Union" was formed on the side of the wall with cedar boughs. Some 250 persons were present.

On Christmas day, Mr. Perry, a merchant of this city, presented the soldiers with so much of the "good critter," that they kicked up a fight among themselves in their quarters on Reese's premises, a party rushed to the street, and managed to get up a row with some young men. The officer of the day did his best to quiet the row, which however was not done until a good many heads got badly bruised, and the city authorities arrived, and some officers who were absent at their quarters, who succeeded in dispersing the crowd. Everything has remained perfectly quiet since, although the citizens for a few hours

seemed much excited. The Mayor put an extra police force in requisition for the night.

The Legislature are getting up a party at the Social Hall, to come off on Monday the first inst., to be a very splendid affair. Eleven officers of the United States army, as well as the United States Territorial Officers, are invited to be present. An Act passed yesterday in Joint Session relating to Common Schools. The weather is so fine that the hands have been engaged for some time past laying rock in the Temple foundation. The Sabbath evening Council is now held in a neatly finished room over the President's new office. The new Council House is inclosed, and makes a splendid appearance. Pump logs are being laid to carry water into it. The Music Hall in Provo is finished, and the first party assembled there at Christmas. Colonel Steptoe is letting out the South road to California in jobs, on the strength of the \$25,000 appropriated by Congress. A considerable number of workmen are making good use of the fine weather in raising the foundation of President Young's new dwelling house. I never saw so beautiful weather in this season of the year since Deseret was settled.

I received a very excellent letter from Joseph Smith, the son of Hyrum, written from the island, in the Sandwich group, which the brethren have selected as a Stake of Zion. The settlement is commenced by about 100 of the brethren who have gathered there, and are busily engaged putting in crops. The soil is represented as extremely rich.

GEORGE A. SMITH.

P.S. Dec. 31.—The Judges of the Supreme Court, Colonel Steptoe, and other United States Territorial Officers, with the principal Merchants in this city, have petitioned to President Pearce, to re-appoint President Young Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs for this Territory. The petition is decidedly rich, as it speaks the truth freely, without stint. We send you a copy, which if you see proper to print, we wish you to print the titles in full, as they were penned by themselves when signing; and it would be well to state that the balance of the signers are gentlemen in the mercantile business, or residents of the Territory, not members of our Church.

President Kimball has just come in, and says he baptized Captain Hooper this evening, and President Young assisted in confirming and ordaining him an Elder.

G. A. S.

Extracts of a Letter from Elder S. W. Richards—The Legislature—Social Meetings.

G. S. L. City, Utah Territory,
Dec. 29rd, 1854.

Dear Brother Franklin—This morning, while I was in session with the Joint Committee from both branches of the Legislature, drafting a Bill for the benefit of common schools, brother H. C. Kimball came into the Council Chamber, and asked us if we would like to hear a letter which he had been writing to his son William, and upon answering in the affirmative, it was read to us. It occupied several pages of foolscap paper, and when I had heard it, I thought it would not be necessary for me to write you any news by the next mail, more than to refer you to that letter, and you would get all the news, both old and new. I will however commence scribbling, and I may possibly blunder upon a few items which may gratify you enough to pay me for the trouble.

The Legislature adjourned yesterday until next Tuesday morning, so that Christmas should not be altogether neglected. There are now important Bills before the House, and some Acts and Resolutions have been passed. That portion of Davis County lying between the River Jordan and Salt Lake, has been attached to G. S. Lake County.

James Brown, senior, has obtained a charter to build bridges across Ogden and Weber rivers, and collect toll from the same for five years. A committee has been appointed to compile the Laws of the Territory, to be published in one volume. Daniel Carn has been appointed Warden for the Penitentiary, and rules are now being drafted for the regulation of the same.

Several Bills of importance are now lying on the table, to be acted upon in their order. One providing for a special tax, to be raised throughout the territory, for the completion of the forts and fortifications which are required to be built. A Bill, authorising President Young to draw upon the Treasurer for the amount, and take two shares in the Deseret Iron Com-

pany. A memorial from T. S. Williams, for the Legislature to refund to him between eleven and twelve hundred dollars, which he advanced to members and officers of the Legislative Assembly for the years 1851-2, and which was not allowed by the General Government. A petition for a road from Utah Valley through to the Green River Settlement, which the Committee on Roads, Bridges, and Ferries are favourable to. An Act to amend the 38th Section of the Charters granted to G. S. L. City, Ogden, Provo, Manti, and Parowan cities. A Bill organizing the entire Territory, where there are settlements, into School Districts, with Trustees, a Board of Examination, and a General Superintendent for the Territory, all connected with the University. Many other matters are under consideration, and the present prospect is, that we shall have a very busy Session, and probably it may be protracted beyond the usual term.

Considerable effort is being made this winter in behalf of schools, and in cultivating a greater taste for literature. The new alphabet will be pretty extensively taught. I think much more of it than I did when I first saw it. It is evidently destined to accomplish an important work, and be of great advantage in obtaining the English language. Members of the board are visiting the different wards, and lecturing the people upon the subject of education. O. Hyde is Chancellor at present in place of Orson Spencer. I have been elected to fill O. Hyde's place in the Board, H. S. Eldredge the place of P. P. Pratt, and W. Woodruff the place of John Taylor.

The Regency are now meeting once in two weeks with the teachers of the city, for the purpose of establishing a uniform policy among schools, and the improvement of teachers.

Dec. 26th. Parties and balls are now the order of the day, as a matter of course. The United States' Officers gave a ball to-day, at which many of our principal men were present; and to-day in the Legislature, that body agreed to have a ball on New Year's Day, which is designed to eclipse anything of the kind ever yet

known in this city. The Legislative Assembly, Government, Civil and Military Officers, and some of the merchants only are to attend. H. C. Kimball, J. M. Grant, Lorenzo Snow, H. S. Eldredge, and myself, have been appointed a committee to superintend the matter. Estimated cost from six to eight hundred dollars.

The dedication of the Seventies Hall, which will be kept up I suppose until after New Year, affords an opportunity for a pretty liberal share of dancing.

Brother Lorenzo Snow has a select party which meets at his Hall once a week, to continue through the winter; social improvement and to cultivate a taste for literature and refinement the object. The Presidency and Twelve are honorary members, and seem to take pleasure in meeting with us. The New Alphabet is there introduced under the supervision of brother Watt, and diagrams designed to call forth the ability of Professor Pratt. The party selected can afford us amusement in the English, French, Italian and other languages. Music consists of about half-a-dozen violins and a bass, piano, guitar, clarionets and flutes, and that most lovely melody which sometimes gets blown out of a Scotch bagpipe. Of course we have a fine selection of comic and other song singers, essays, recitations, cotillions and a great variety of original matter, which the occasions are well calculated to call forth. They are very profitable meetings.

As yet we have had only one snow storm of any particular account. The weather is and has been most delightful, and almost every one seems to be using it to the best advantage.

It is now a pretty general time of health, though Mary has been very poorly most of the time during the past month. I believe at present all our friends and relatives are pretty well.

Being one of the Trustees of the 14th Ward, I am busy more or less collecting taxes for a large school house, to be built next summer, between the two now built.

I am as ever, undeviatingly,

Your affectionate brother,

S. W. RICHARDS.

WHAT is most wanted in this world? Self-restraint, says a philosopher. Among all other virtues, humility, though it be lowest, yet is pre-eminent. It is the safest, because it is always at anchor; and that man may be truly said to live with most content in his calling that strives to live within the compass of it.—*Richel.*